

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 81 incl., 83, 84, 88, 102, 103, (cancelled).

82. (currently amended) A postal envelope system comprising:
said envelope system comprising multiple plies that form an
outgoing envelope and a reply envelope contained within said outgoing
envelope, wherein said envelopes each have a mail-to address and a
return address printed thereon,

an originating sheet, covering said outgoing envelope, having
said addresses printed thereon,

each of said addresses on said outgoing and said reply
envelopes being vertically below a corresponding address on said
originating sheet when the envelopes are held in a horizontal plane,

coating means contiguous to said reply envelope for applying
said addresses on said reply envelope when said addresses are printed
on said originating sheet,

said reply envelope being removable from said outgoing
envelope and when so removed is totally separate from said outgoing
envelope so that it may be mailed to its addressee independently of
said outgoing envelope [[.]],

said reply envelope comprising two separate plies of sheet
material fastened together to form an envelope, and said outgoing
envelope comprising an additional two plies of sheet material that
are fastened together to form an envelope that is larger than said
reply envelope, said reply envelope being so small that it will fit
inside said outgoing envelope,

said two separate plies being wholly separate from said two
additional plies.

85. (previously presented) The postal envelope system of claim 82, comprising:

said originating sheet comprising a selectively carbonized bond of a first weight,

said outgoing envelope comprising a selectively carbonized bond face sheet of a second weight,

a selectively carbonized bond billing statement sheet of said second weight,

said reply envelope having a face sheet, comprising a register bond of a third weight positioned on top of,

a reply envelope having a back sheet comprising a register bond of a fourth weight positioned on top of,

said outgoing envelope having a back sheet of a register bond of said fourth weight.

86. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 85, in which:

said first weight being twelve-and-a-half pound bond,

said second weight and said billing statement, being sixteen pound bond,

said register bond face sheet of said reply envelope being twenty four pound bond,

said fourth weight being twenty pound bond.

87. (currently amended) A business method using a postal envelope system, said method comprising:

providing said postal envelope system with an outgoing envelope having mail-to and return addresses,

providing said outgoing envelope with a reply envelope, [[located]] inserting said reply envelope inside the outgoing envelope, [[which also has]] providing said reply envelope with mail-to and return addresses,

providing said envelopes with adjacent contrasting colors including a [[rectangular]] area whose color is relatively light and a contiguous area that is relatively dark, and

printing said addresses in said relatively light colored areas, and

passing said envelopes through a postal system that has machine reading equipment for reading said printing on said envelopes,

said step of providing said outgoing envelope with a reply envelope comprising providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed may be mailed without [[being attached to]] reusing any part of the outgoing envelope,

passing said first envelope through said machine, at a post office, that processes envelopes.

89. (currently amended) A business method using a postal envelope system that has a machine for processing envelopes, said method comprising:

providing a first envelope having printed first mail-to and return addresses,

providing said first envelope with a second envelope for reply having printed mail-to and return addresses,

providing a second envelope in said first envelope,

said step of providing a first envelope comprising providing two sheets of paper each of which sheets has four edges and wherein both sheets are of about the same size and shape and are attached together along three of their four edges, one of said edges being a right-hand edge,

reinforcing said right-hand edge to thereby reduce the possibility that said machine will seriously damage the first envelope, and thereby rendering said right-hand edge stronger than said other edges,

said step of providing sheets attached and reinforced along the right-hand edge comprises gluing sheets together along their right-hand edges.

90. (currently amended) A postal envelope system, comprising:

an outgoing envelope, and

a reply envelope contained within said outgoing envelope,

said reply envelope being removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed is totally separate from said outgoing

envelope so that it may be mailed to its addressee independently of said outgoing envelope,

said outgoing envelope having a right-hand edge, a left-hand edge, a top edge and a bottom edge, said right-hand edge being stronger than the other of said edges.

91. (currently amended) A postal envelope system, comprising:

an outgoing envelope having a front side and a back side, said front side having an upper end and a return address adjacent said upper end,

said back side having a lower left end and a lower right end, means adjacent said lower left end, for opening said envelope, by moving said means toward said lower right end,

a reply envelope located in said outgoing envelope, said reply envelope being removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed is totally separate from said outgoing envelope so that it may be mailed to its addressee independently of said outgoing envelope,

said reply envelope having a lower end that is open when the reply envelope is in the outgoing envelope,

a flap on said reply envelope for closing said open end, said flap being positioned closely adjacent said means when the reply envelope is in the outgoing envelope.

92. (previously presented) A postal envelope as defined in claim 91, in which said means is a tear strip,
said front side having a left edge and a right edge,
said tear strip having an end adjacent said left edge that may be pulled toward said right edge to open the outgoing envelope.

93. (currently amended) The method of printing information on an envelope system, comprising:

providing said envelope system with multiple plies that form an outgoing envelope having an upper edge and a bottom edge, and a reply envelope inside of said outgoing envelope,

~~providing a reply envelope inside of said outgoing envelope,~~
said step of providing said reply envelope comprising providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed may be mailed without being attached to the outgoing envelope,

said step of providing a reply envelope comprising providing two separate plies of sheet material to form an envelope, and said step of providing an outgoing envelope comprising providing two additional plies of sheet material, fastening the two additional plies together to form an envelope that is larger than said reply envelope so that the reply envelope will fit inside said outgoing envelope,

said two separate plies being wholly separate from said two additional plies,

said step of providing a reply envelope comprising providing said reply envelope with a top end that is adjacent said upper edge

of said outgoing envelope,

providing a cover sheet that has an upper and lower edges,

positioning said cover sheet in contiguous relation [[face to face contact]] with said outgoing envelope,

printing the customer's name and address near said upper edge of said cover sheet, and

providing a carbonized area contiguous with an area of said reply envelope that is near said top end of said reply envelope so that the customer's address that was printed on said cover sheet will appear near said upper edge of said reply envelope.

94. (previously presented) The method of claim 93, comprising:

providing a removable billing statement in said outgoing envelope,

providing a carbonized area adjacent a portion of said billing statement to enable printing of said customer's name and address on said billing statement.

95. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 91, in which said means includes a tear strip having a free end adjacent the lower left end of said back side so that said free end may be pulled toward the lower right end of said back side to open the envelope, whereby the direction that said tab is pulled is opposite to the direction that the outgoing envelope passes through the postal service's processing machinery.

96. (previously presented) A postal envelope system adapted to go through the processing machinery of the postal service, comprising:

an envelope having a front side and a back side,
said front side having an upper end and a return address adjacent said upper end,
said back side having a lower end,
means adjacent said lower end, for opening said envelope, said means having a free end movable from a position adjacent the lower left end of said back side toward a position adjacent the lower right end of said back side to open the envelope, whereby said free end is pulled, during the opening of the envelope, in a direction opposite to the direction that the envelope goes through the processing machinery of the postal service.

97. (currently amended) A method of making a postal envelope system, comprising:

providing a plurality of sheets,
attaching at least some of said sheets together to form an outgoing envelope, and a reply envelope contained within said outgoing envelope,

said step of providing a reply envelope comprising providing two separate plies of sheet material to form an envelope, and said step of providing an outgoing envelope comprising providing two additional plies of sheet material, fastening the two additional plies together to form an envelope that is larger than said reply envelope so that the reply envelope will fit inside said outgoing

envelope,

said two separate plies being wholly separate from said two additional plies,

said step of providing said reply envelope comprising providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed may be mailed without being attached to the outgoing envelope,

said step of providing sheets including providing an originating sheet that is on top of said outgoing envelope,

providing each of said originating sheet, said outgoing envelope and said reply envelope with areas for printing the addresses of the sender and of the addressee of the outgoing envelope and areas for printing the addresses of the sender and of the addressee of the reply envelope,

positioning a carbonized area over each said area of each said envelope,

positioning said areas of said sheets, so that when the address of the sender of the outgoing envelope is applied to the originating sheet by impact printing it will appear as the sender of the outgoing envelope and the addressee of the return envelope,

printing said addresses on said originating sheet.

98. (currently amended) The method of claim 97, wherein postal equipment feeds said envelopes through a postal envelope processing system and makes contact with said envelopes at contact points up to approximately one and a half inches from a bottom edge of said envelopes, and printing a barcode on at least one of said

envelopes which will be positioned in spaced relation to said contact points when that envelope goes through said postal envelope processing system.

99. (previously presented) The method of making a postal envelope system as defined in claim 93, in which said printing step includes printing a FIM mark on said cover sheet,

said step of providing a front side comprising providing a sheet having a front face and an inside face, with an opaque area on said inside face and behind where a FIM mark may be printed, and

providing a carbonized area for reproducing said printed FIM mark on said reply envelope.

100. (currently amended) The method of making a postal envelope system, comprising:

providing said envelope comprising multiple plies that form an outgoing envelope with a reply envelope in the outgoing envelope,

said step of providing said reply envelope comprising providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed may be mailed without being attached to the outgoing envelope,

said step of providing a reply envelope comprising providing two separate plies of sheet material to form an envelope, and said step of providing an outgoing envelope comprising providing two additional plies of sheet material, fastening the two additional plies together to form an envelope that is larger than said reply envelope so that the reply envelope will fit inside said outgoing

envelope,

said two separate plies being wholly separate from said two additional plies,

providing a first area of said outgoing envelope for the sender's address,

providing a second area of said outgoing envelope for the addressee of the outgoing envelope,

providing a first area of said reply envelope for the address of the sender of the reply envelope,

providing a medium contiguous with said first area of said reply envelope for applying the address, of the sender of said reply envelope, to said reply envelope,

providing a second area of said reply envelope for the addressee of the reply envelope,

providing a medium contiguous with said second area of said reply envelope for applying the addressee of the reply envelope to that envelope,

providing a third area of said reply envelope for the FIM mark,

providing an opaque area on the inside of said reply envelope and behind said third area so that the FIM mark may be accurately read,

providing a medium contiguous with said third area for applying said FIM mark to said reply envelope.

101. (previously presented) The method of making a postal envelope system as defined in claim 100, in which each of said first and second areas of said outgoing envelope have a medium contiguous thereto enabling the impact printing to apply said addresses to first and second areas of said outgoing envelope.

104. (currently amended) The method of making a postal envelope system, comprising:

providing a multiple ply envelope system including an outgoing envelope containing a reply envelope and a billing sheet,

said step of providing said reply envelope comprising providing a reply envelope that is removable from said outgoing envelope and when so removed may be mailed without being attached to the outgoing envelope,

said reply envelope comprising two separate plies of sheet material fastened together to form an envelope, and said outgoing envelope comprising an additional two plies of sheet material that are fastened together to form an envelope that is larger than said reply envelope, said reply envelope being so small that it will fit inside said outgoing envelope,

said two separate plies being wholly separate from said two additional plies,

printing information on said outgoing envelope and causing that information to be printed on said billing sheet,

providing said billing sheet with a line of weakness so that it may be readily torn apart into first and second pieces,

said printing step printing billing information including the

name and address of both the sender and the receiver of said outgoing envelope on one of said pieces and the name and address of said sender and receiver on the other one of said pieces.

105. (previously presented) A postal envelope as defined in claim 82, in which said outgoing envelope has a top edge and a bottom edge, and also in which said reply envelope has an open end adjacent said bottom edge.

106. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 105, in which said reply envelope has a flap for closing said open end.

107. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 82, in which said outgoing envelope and said reply envelope each have a top edge, said top edges being adjacent each other,

an originating sheet covering the outgoing envelope and also having a top edge, said originating sheet having first and second areas both adjacent said top edge for said [[mail-to and send]] return addresses respectively,

said originating sheet also having third and fourth areas for said mail-to [[and said reply]] addressees respectively.

108. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 107, in which said outgoing envelope has a bottom edge and also in which said reply envelope has an open end adjacent

said bottom edge.

109. (currently amended) An envelope comprising first and second sheets attached together and defining a pocket between said sheets,

said first sheet having inside and outside faces,

said first sheet having one or more areas on which information may be printed, on the outside face of said first sheet,

said first sheet having, ~~[[a solid dark opaque area]]~~ on its inside face and directly behind each said area of said outside face~~[[.]]~~, means for preventing the contents of said envelope from being mistakenly scanned by a postal processing machine.

110. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 91, wherein said means and said flap are both relatively narrow as compared to the distance between said upper and lower ends.

111. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 92, in which said tear strip is relatively narrow as compared to the distance between said upper and lower ends.

112. (previously presented) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 82, in which:

said originating sheet having four addresses thereon,

two of which addresses are the mail-to and return addresses for the outgoing envelope,

and the other two of which addresses are the mail-to and return addresses for the return envelope.

113. (new) A postal envelope system as defined in claim 82, having a billing sheet located wholly inside said outgoing envelope but wholly outside said reply envelope.

114. (new) An envelope comprising first and second sheets attached together and defining a pocket between said sheets,
said first sheet having inside and outside faces,
said first sheet having one or more areas on which information may be printed, on the outside face of said first sheet,
each said area comprising means for preventing the contents of said envelope from being mistakenly scanned by said postal processing equipment.

115. (new) An envelope as defined in claim 114 having:
means on the inside face of said first sheet for providing security screening on all of the area of said inside face that does not have said means on it.